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The Greening of Boston Program





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Look around your street and your neighborhood—would some trees make it more pleasant? Would a trash barrel make the area neater? Do you need some playground equipment? How about a quiet mini-park for reading and relaxation? You can spruce up your street, brighten your block and make your neighborhood a better place to live!

The Greening of Boston Program can help you and your neighbors improve your neighborhood with the addition of trees, benches, shrubs, playground equipment, trash barrels and similar street furniture items. We can match neighborhood funds on a 3 to 1 basis, and provide professional design and administrative services to help implement your project.

The goals of the program are to upgrade Boston's environmental quality, to visually enhance the neighborhoods and to increase citizen participation in neighboring planning. An imaginative and rewarding program which works in partnership with Boston citizens, the Greening Program acts as a direct, practical and personal service for the city's neighborhoods.

How You Can Participate

When Jerry Adomunes decided that the bus stop in front of his Adams Street, Dorchester, variety store ought to be a more pleasant waiting place for people, he called the Greening Program Coordinator for advice. Together they discussed the project, visited the site and selected a handsome wooden planter-bench from the Greening Program's catalogues of durable, well designed street furniture. In only six weeks the equipment was in place and Adomunes' vision had become a neighborhood improvement.

In Roxbury, four small playgrounds were created when administrators of the St. Francis de Sales School, Paige Academy and the Busy Bee and Hawthorne Day Care Centers sought help from the Greening Program. Cutting through red tape, designs for the areas were drawn. Safe, high-quality playground equipment, suited to each site, was selected, ordered and shipped. The installations were made by parent groups who had banded together as construction workers on their school's project.

A tree in front of an East Boston home, a mini-park for the elderly in Jamaica Plain, window boxes on a Dorchester triple-decker, bicycle racks for a school in Allston... these are a few of the myriad ways Boston neighborhoods have been beautified through the Greening Program.

Picture These in Your Neighborhood...



Trees

Think how pleasant it would be to have a graceful line of trees to brighten your street or your neighborhood shopping area. Did you know trees clean the air and

provide oxygen, shade and protection from wind? Our landscape design consultant will suggest trees that are resistant to city stresses and appropriate for your area.



Planters and Shrubs

Tasteful, durable, wooden and concrete planters are available in various sizes and shapes. Filled with shrubs, flowers and even trees, planters

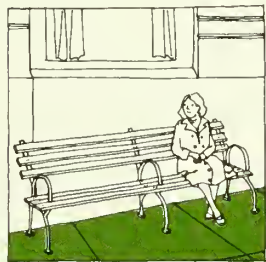
add a touch of living color to your street. Our landscape designer can suggest varieties of plant material in a suitable design for your planters.



Window Boxes

Turn your street into an appealing, vivid area with window boxes filled with many colored flowers, herbs or vegetables. When you have a group interested in buying at

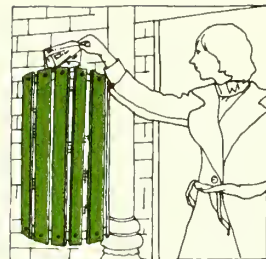
least 20 window boxes, give us a call. We'll arrange to have sturdy wooden or fiberglass window boxes delivered, along with soil, to your neighborhood.



Benches

Do you need benches in your local park, at your bus stop, near your store or in your playground? We have selected a variety of styles of attractive, well-designed wooden

benches, and can help you choose the bench most suited to your neighborhood's architecture. We have backless benches for waiting, benches with arms and backs for relaxing, and even benches with small planters attached.



Trash Containers

Bothered by litter in your neighborhood? Get a trash container from the Greening Program. Concrete or wooden heavy-duty trash containers suited

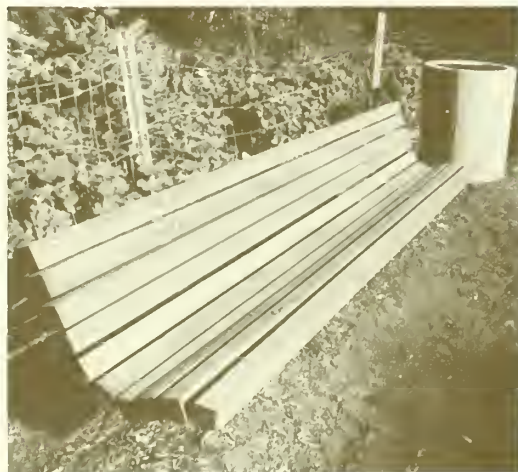
to your area are available. The city will empty the trash container if it's on public property, such as a sidewalk. Trash containers can make a tremendous difference in the appearance of your store front, school yard or community center.



Playground Equipment

Does your school, community center or local playground need new or additional equipment? We've combed the catalogues and se-

lected the safest, most imaginative new play equipment ideas—equipment designed to encourage creative play and to be beautiful additions to your neighborhood, too. We have traditional metal swings, slides, seesaws and climbing frames, and innovative wooden stepping timbers, clatter bridges, balance logs and climbing arches.



How to Make the Greening Program Work for You

Meet with your neighbors and discuss what improvements would be most beneficial to your area. What would make your neighborhood a nicer place to live and work? Think about who uses your street—Elderly people? Children? Shoppers? How do they use it? When? What do the users of your street need?

Greening Program projects can be done on most publicly owned land with the permission of the city of Boston, and on most privately owned land with the owner's permission. For example, projects can be built at parks and other small open spaces, city sidewalks, shopping areas, bus stops, apartment and public buildings. All projects must be visible and accessible to the public, so that everyone can enjoy the improvements. Both individuals and groups can participate in the program. Merchants, neighborhood associations, civic groups, church clubs, fraternal organizations, schools, social service agencies and environmental groups have already completed projects with the Greening of Boston Program. The Greening staff will act as general contractor for your project, working with you each step of the way.

Professional Design and Administrative Services are Provided

The Greening Program Coordinator, the Landscape Designer and your group's representative will act as a team to plan, design and implement your project. We will visit your site to advise your group on items appropriate for your budget, and for your site's use and character. Look over our catalogues of well-designed, handsome street furniture and play equipment for ideas. Our Landscape Designer will advise on selections and prepare an overall site plan for your project. She will also recommend trees, shrubs and landscaping for your site.

The Coordinator will handle all the details of implementing your project: research, planning, permits and all arrangements with manufacturers, private contractors and shippers for prompt delivery and installation of the improvements.



Funds for Greening Program Projects are Available

The Greening Program operates on a generous three-to-one cost-sharing basis and provides as much as \$1500 for a single project. For example, if your group's project totals \$1200, including delivery and installation, \$900 will be paid by the Greening Program. The remaining \$300 comes from tax-deductible donations raised by you and your neighbors.

Fund Raising

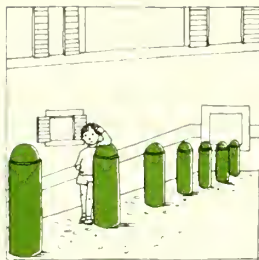
Attracting donations is simple, and helps people become involved with community activity. Some of the ideas that have proven successful are block dances, bake sales, garage sales, potluck dinners, auctions and door-to-door fund raising.

Leaders in your own garden club, church group or community center may have other ideas; talk it over with them. Talk with your landlord, your local merchants and your Little City Hall manager. Let your local weekly newspaper know the improvements you are planning; they'll help you publicize the project and generate the funds you need. What's good for the neighborhood is good for everybody, and everybody wants to help once they learn what can be done.

Maintenance

To assure that your project is a permanent asset to your community, we ask that every participating group sign a maintenance agreement. Your promise to care for the project—picking up litter nearby, pruning and watering trees, re-staining street furniture and so forth—is an essential element to the success of every project. The Coordinator and the Landscape Designer will furnish all the information you'll need to care for your project.

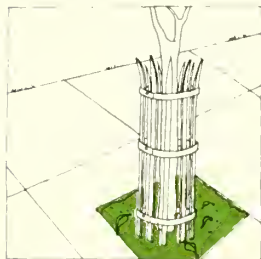




Bollards

Ornamental bollards in wood and cement, round or square, can be used in many ways: for defining areas, such as separating a playground from the rest of a park, for directing

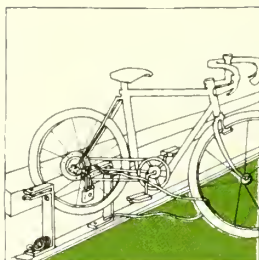
pedestrians in shopping districts, for sitting, resting and leaning, and for keeping cars where they belong. We'll help with the selection and planning of the installation.



Tree Guards

Decorative and sturdy metal tree guards designed to blend with the architecture of your neighborhood will protect trees from dogs, vandals, snow-plows and cars. Tree

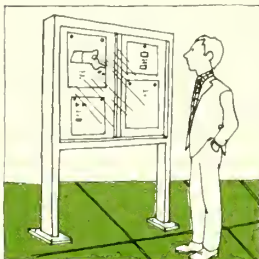
guards add an elegant and distinctive character to your neighborhood. The soil at the base of the tree can be protected in three ways — with a metal tree grate, cobblestones or a raised planter bed. Both tree grates and cobblestones allow air and water to seep into the roots without impeding pedestrian traffic, while raised planter beds detour pedestrians from the tree pit area and are useful on quieter streets.



Bicycle Racks

Many Boston residents are now bicycling to work, to school, to shopping centers and just for exercise. Because all bicyclists need a safe place to lock up their

bikes, bicycle racks are a great convenience for your employees, customers and neighbors. Good-looking, practical styles are available.



Kiosks

Wouldn't it be helpful to have a central neighborhood bulletin board for notices and information? For example, residents could post flyers about plays, concerts,

lectures, senior citizen events, special sales, transit information and health programs. We can design and install a handsome wooden or metal kiosk in your neighborhood center or local park.

Initiated as the Birthday Book Program of Boston 200, the city's bicentennial organization, the Greening of Boston is now a program of the Boston Foundation. The program is funded by donations from corporations and foundations, and all contributions to the Greening of Boston are tax-deductible.

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